THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) This Ministry has received requests form the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and from other scurces for enlisting of 95 communities in the Scheduled Tribes list of the State. The proposals have been processed as per the approved modalities. The modalities require reports from three independent agencies namely the State Government, the Registrar-General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes about the fulfillment of the stipulated criteria by the communities concerned. Only those proposals which have been agreed to by all the above three agencies are taken up for inclusion through amending legislation.

Status of Banjara tribe in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal

†1457. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large number of Banjara (nomadic tribe) inhabit Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal;

(b) whether Banjara hold the status of tribes in some States of the country; and

(c) if so, by when the Banjaras inhabiting Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal will be accorded the status of tribe?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBALAFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Banjara community has been notified as a Scheduled Tribe in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa.

(c) The modalities for inclusion of any community as a Scheduled Tribes require reports from three independent agencies namely the State Government, the Registrar-General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes about the fulfillment of the stipulated criteria by the community concerned. The proposals received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal are being processed as per the approved modalities. No definite time-frame can be indicated at this stage.

Amount for Post-Matric scholarships for ST students

1458. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have increased the amount for Post-matric scholarships for ST students from Rs. 65.49 crores in 2004-05 to Rs. 230.65 crores during 2005-06 to provide benefits to 7,80, 000 students;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.